

T-I-M-B-E-R-R-R-R—This old wooden oil well derrick, one of a half dozen felled within the last week in the old Del Amo field west of Hawthorne avenue and north of Sepulveda boulevard, was caught approximately half way in its fall by the photographer. J. J. Koshak, who makes a business of felling the old derricks, says he usually salvages about 6000 board feet of well-seasoned lumber out of the 16,000 feet in the average 120-foot derrick.

Few Know It, But —

Tunnel 800 Feet Long, 40 Feet Underground, Links Communities

Forty feet under the pavement, workmen are walking back and forth today between Torrance and Lomita digging a tunnel 800 feet long, one of the most unusual projects ever undertaken in this area. Because the men enter the work chamber through a seven-foot diameter shaft on Lomita boulevard just west of Pennsylvania avenue, their operations are observed by few people.

The tunnel they are digging is approximately six feet high and four feet wide, but by the time it is walled up with heavy timbers to protect the men against possible cave-ins the inside dimensions are four feet by four feet.

Inside the tunnel the air is muggy with the warm air released from the air-powered spades which have the br-r-r sound of an air hammer. The only light is from miner's lamps on the men's caps as they work each way from the entrance shaft — one crew working east and the other west—two to a crew.

The earth they loosen is hauled out by little carts and placed in barrel-size buckets at the bottom of the shaft to be hoisted to the surface by workmen above ground who await the signal to "hoist 'er away."

When the tunnel is completed, other workmen will lay a 21-inch-diameter vitrified clay pipeline inside it for the westerly extension of the Lomita trunk sewer, which will eventually serve Welteria, Seaside Ranchos and adjoining subdivisions and the entire westerly section of Torrance which is undeveloped as yet.

Eight hundred feet westerly of Pennsylvania avenue the terrain slopes down and the underground line is within 18 feet of the surface, which permits open-cut excavation with a trenching machine from this point westerly.

The alignment swings southerly from the boulevard across the westerly end of the airport to 238th street and thence westerly across Hawthorne boulevard and Ocean avenue to the westerly line of the Meadows tract, some 2000 feet west of Hawthorne. At this point it turns southerly to Pacific Coast Highway, where laterals from Welteria and from the new subdivisions to the west will connect. The tunnel permits a gravity flow from the extreme westerly

section of the city to the sewage treatment plant at Harbor City. It will require several months to complete the entire extension of the trunk line, which already exists as far west as Pennsylvania avenue.

SLEEPY DRIVERS

If you become sleepy while at the wheel, pull off the road and take a nap, get out and walk around a bit, or at least open up your windows and let some fresh air into the car. Continuing to drive while sleepy is asking for trouble.

WHAT'S NEW - DEPT.—Mid-Western manufacturer producing plastic chairs at less than \$15—first ever mass-produced to sell at such a price.

Fall Expectant Mother Class Opens Oct. 19

Dates have been set for the fall expectant mothers' class to be held in the Torrance Health Center, 2300 Carson st., Torrance, according to Dr. H. C. Smiley, district health officer, the first session to be Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 19, at 1:30 o'clock.

These classes are open to all prospective mothers as well as to those who may have the care of new babies. They are an educational service of the Los Angeles County Health Department and there is no charge.

Letters announcing the class have been sent to physicians in the area, many of whom recommend that their prospective mother patients attend. The course will run for approximately 12 weeks and will be held on Tuesday afternoons instead of Thursday mornings, as in the past.

TRAVERTINE ROCKS

Travertine Rocks, located just west of the highway from 11 miles south of Indio, are reported to be covered with prehistoric Indian markings and paintings.

GARDENA ENROLLS 4,732

Gardena's five elementary schools and high school enrolled a total of 4,732 students this fall, a gain of approximately 500 over last year.

Highway Job Programmed

Improvement of Normandie avenue, Route 60, to Route 60-D, a distance of seven-tenths of a mile, is on the work scheduled for the State Highway Department for the fiscal year 1948-49. Cost of the work will be \$41,000. The work calls for surfacing and shoulders.

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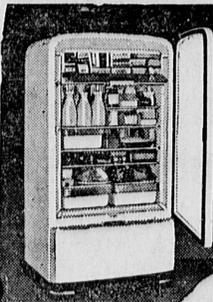
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Wanted: More Homes

Births Lagging in Local Health District, County Report Shows

Despite the fact that chickenpox, mumps and whooping cough were mildly epidemic last year, preventable diseases dropped from 32,487 in 1946 to 20,648 in 1947 throughout the county, according to Dr. Roy O. Gilbert, Los Angeles county health officer, in his annual report to the Board of Supervisors.

Locally, Torrance, Lomita and the rest of the Torrance health district kept pace with the balance of the county in its health record with 1,276 instances of communicable diseases reported in the district and 150 in this community. In the top group were chickenpox, 40; gonorrhea, 10; mumps, 21; syphilis, 22 and tuberculosis 13.

Torrance's new babies accounted for 363 of the estimated 11 percent population increase during the last calendar year. Deaths increased nearly 38 percent, 127 occurring in 1947.

With added personnel available there was a 25 percent increase in the number of child health conferences last year throughout the county. In the local district, 148 of them were conducted with 3140 parent-consultations in this educational program of the County Health Department to keep well babies well.

Attendance in this and other clinics and conferences in the Torrance Health District totaled 28,086. Visits to the public health dentist, mostly by children whose families could not afford private dental care accounted for 2,434; tuberculosis patient-visits 1,869; and venereal disease treatments, 1757. A total of 13,795 whooping cough, diphtheria and smallpox immunizations were given in this district, the report shows.

Torrance is one of the 171 communities in Los Angeles county whose public health is under the supervision of the Los Angeles County Health Department.

Voters to Get Sample Ballots in Two Weeks

Local voters will receive sample ballots beginning Oct. 13, according to Ben Hite, county registrar of voters. All ballots must be mailed by Oct. 28. Arguments for and against the State propositions will be enclosed with the sample ballots.

The Board of Supervisors this week appointed the officials for all election boards in this area and officially designated the polling places. Inspectors will receive \$15 and the other four members \$12 each for their work of counting the ballots cast on Nov. 2.

First returns from the polling in this area probably will be available long before any county-wide returns are available from the Hall of Justice, as the ballot is a long one.

COLORADO PICNIC

A grand reunion of an expected 10,000 people from Colorado with their friends is called by the president of this "Centennial State," Andrew Cullinane, all day Sunday, Oct. 10 in Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles. Unusual preparations are planned for the event.

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